

We are excited to introduce the Nebraska Association of Air Medical Services (NEAAMS). This association was formulated in 2005 after the air medical services in Nebraska came together to discuss common interests in safety and interagency cooperation. The Nebraska association is a registered chapter with the Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS). AAMS is non-profit international organization that supports its members in maintaining a standard of performance that reflects safe operations and efficient, qualified patient care.

The Nebraska association was officially incorporated in 2007. Voting members include representatives from the current air medical services: AirLink – Scottsbluff, AirCare – Kearney, LifeNet – Norfolk, LifeNet – Omaha, and Star Care – Lincoln. The board of directors is composed of an equal number of representatives from each of the programs. The executive board consist of Shane Mohr (LifeNet Omaha), president; Doug Wulf (AirCare), president-elect; and Dee Vogel (AirLink), secretary/treasurer.

The association holds open meetings on a quarterly base utilizing by-laws approved by AAMS. NEAAMS allows additional participation on the following levels: associate, affiliate, and individual membership.

NEAAMS provides an organized forum for air medical services in the state to unify and speak with one voice. This forum will focus on interagency communication, safety, and enhanced relationships with the many professions who utilize our services. The association has created a Safety Committee with representation from the participating flight services. The focus of this committee is to review potential or real safety concerns, enhance communication between flight services and agencies utilizing air medical transport, and the development of a statewide hospital helipad directory. The Safety Committee also works with the AAMS Vision Zero program. This program focuses on air medical safety with the following slogan: "Only by working together can we achieve *Vision Zero: Zero Errors of Consequence.*"

NEAAMS is collaborating with state and private organizations to achieve its goals. Currently we are working with the State of Nebraska Board of EMS to develop rules and regulations for licensure specific to air medical transport. At this time, air ambulances are licensed using the same regulations as advanced life support ambulances.

NEAAMS is working on an official website for the purpose of communicating with professionals who utilize our services and for improving communication between air medical services. The website will display safety and operational information for hospital helipads and landing zones utilized by emergency medical services.

If you have any questions about NEAAMS or are interested in becoming a member of the association, please contact a member of the executive board or one the participating air ambulance providers.

President

Shane Mohr Chief Flight Nurse LifeNet Omaha 402-559-5160 **President-elect**

Doug Wulf Chief Flight Nurse Kearney Air Care 308-865-7228 Secretary / Treasurer

Dee Vogel Chief Flight Nurse Air Link 308-630-1776